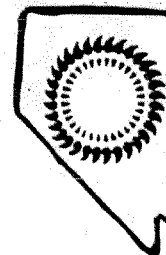


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



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JANUARY 1994
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 1
Nevada State Library
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MAY 1 8 2005

STATE PUBLICATIONS

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SYNOPSIS

January in Nevada was yet another dry and mild month. With only a couple of exceptions precipitation was well below normal for the month and for the first four months of the 1993-94 Water Year. In fact, without a very wet October (1.42"), for example in Reno the Oct-Jan period would have been the second lowest precipitation (.35") since NWS records began in 1905. The driest was 1947-48 with only .25". There has also been a dearth of snowfall Statewide. In far Western Nevada, after the snowiest winter in 40 years, Reno has had only 0.8" of snow thus far this winter at the Airport, the second least since 1905. By February 1st of 1918 only 0.1" had fallen. However, February 1918 brought 14" and March 20"! Normal for this portion of the winter (Oct-Jan) would be 13".

About the only thing that was abundant in Nevada in January (except visitors who didn't have to worry about bad weather hampering travel plans) was sunshine. Las Vegas (89% of the possible hours), Reno (85%), and Ely (82%) all had near record sun hours for this normally cloudiest month of the year.

TEMPERATURE

January was a milder than normal month Statewide, with departures from normal ranging from 5-6 degrees in some portions of the northeast one-third of the State to only 1-2 degrees warmer than normal in the Sierra Nevada and the lower Humboldt River Area.

Temperatures reached into the 60's and 70's at most locations, with a feeling of "Spring in the Air". The State high was 81 degrees at Amargosa Valley, breaking the old January record of 79 degrees set at that site in 1989. Records began in 1965. It was also 80 degrees at Bunkerville the same day. The all-time Nevada January high was 84 degrees at Logandale in 1931. January is the only month that has not reached over the 90 degree mark in Nevada.

Nevada's record low for any month was -50 degrees set at San Jacinto Ranch in the infamously cold month, January 1937. That same location could only log -15 degrees this January, but less than 50 miles away Charleston recorded -36 degrees on the 31st for the lowest in January 1994. The high that day was 28 degrees for a 64 degree recovery in less than 8 hours! Ruth (-23 degrees) and Wildhorse Reservoir (-22 degrees) also had a very cold last day of January.

PRECIPITATION

Precipitation was in short supply in most locations this month, as it has been for the first third of the 1993-94 Water Year (Oct-Jan). After a one year respite (1992-93) a return to the dry 1986-87 to 1991-92 conditions looms as a distinct possibility. With the exception of small areas in the Northeast and East January 1994 precipitation was well below normal ($< 2/3$ of normal). Only Battle Mountain and Metropolis received above normal amounts, with about half of the State logging less than 25% of normal during this month which is normally one of the wettest months of the year. Several locations received no rain or snow this month including, Goldfield, Dyer, Tonopah, Smokey Valley, Yerington, and Charleston.

Nevada's wettest reporting locations this month were Verdi Peak with 1.47" (about $1/5$ of normal), Jarbidge 1.31" ($2/3$ of normal) and 22" of snowfall, Lee Canyon 1.27" ($1/2$ of normal), and Owyhee, 1.22" (near normal).

Water Year precipitation (Oct-Jan) is well below normal, and only a fraction of totals at this time one year ago during the only wet year in almost 10 years. East Slope Sierra Nevada areas are generally only 35-45% of normal, with the South, Northwest, and Northeast at about $1/2$ of normal. The Central portion of the State has fared the best with 65-85% of normal. Only McGill (104% of normal) and Fallon (150%) are above normal, mainly due to a very wet October.

SUNSHINE. WIND & EVAPORATION

As mentioned earlier possible sunshine hours were near the record number of hours, during this normally cloudiest month of the year. On the other hand, due to the lack of storms, wind speed averages were well below normal. Peak gusts did reach 50-60mph at several locations in Western Nevada early in the month.

Evaporation was only measured in the South, but was a little below normal for the month (e.g. Boulder City had 2.92" of pan evap. and a normal of 3.25").

NOTE: Knowledge of Nevada's precipitation is enhanced by once a year readings from storage gages located in remote areas. About 50 of these precipitation gages are extant in the Silver State, some being maintained by the State Division of Water Resources and some by the State Climate Office. As this information may be useful to many persons, and because it is no longer published in the open literature, data from these gages is included in this summary, usually in one of the late summer editions. Numbers on the Nevada Climate Map locate the sites and the STORAGE GAGE information on the back of the map indicates 1992-93 precipitation and long term normals.

John W. James
State Climatologist

We continue our salute to Nevada's
volunteer weather observers with Elko
County:

Arthur.....	Henry Krenka
Boies Ranch.....	Marla Griswold
Charleston.....	Frank Prunty
Clover Valley.....	Ferris T. Brough
Contact.....	Donna Andrews
Deeth.....	Mary L. Wise
Elko Airport.....	FAA
Gibbs Ranch.....	Mary Gibbs
IL Ranch.....	Ida Kvasnikoff
Jackpot.....	Marianne Bloom
Jarbridge.....	Wm. Penn Fisher
Jarbridge 4N.....	Betsy Williams
Jiggs.....	Frank & Simone Zaga
Lamoille.....	Nathan Yost
Metropolis.....	Farnes Egbert
Midas.....	Ted Hansen
Montello.....	Gerald Lee
Mtn. City Ranger Station.....	USFS- Karen Jimmy
Oasis.....	Alfred King
Owyhee.....	Darrell Laducer
Rowland.....	Frank Richmeyer
Ruby Lake.....	U.S. Fish & Wildlife - J. Mackay
Ruby Valley.....	Ben Neff
San Jacinto.....	Dave Secrist
Tuscarora.....	Sharon Rhoads
Wells.....	Mike Eriksen
Wildhorse Reservoir.....	Wildhorse State Recreation Area

- Joseph Gill

STORAGE GAGE INDEX

<u>Storage Gage Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>1960-91 Averages</u>	<u>1992-93 Precip.</u>
1	Coon Creek Summit	34.32	36.50
2	Pratt Creek	17.55	20.25
3	Hanks Creek	10.28	10.80
4	West Fork Beaver Creek	13.54	13.00
5	Jacks Creek Pass	32.00	38.05
6	California Creek	12.89	14.70
7	Willow Creek Summit	12.88	16.00
8	Adobe Summit	14.62	13.90
9	Angel Lake	35.27	59.40
10	Soldier Creek	-----	24.95
11	Rattlesnake Creek	22.43	25.80
12	Harrison Pass	16.78	MISS
13	White Horse Pass	8.43	8.30
14	Sadler Ranch	8.90	10.00
15	Limerick Pass	12.60	15.75
16	Shelbourne Pass	13.49	10.80
17	Overland Pass No. 2	12.69	16.00
18	Robinson Summit	12.56	14.55
19	Conners Pass	13.87	13.74
20	+ Wheeler Camp	-----	22.00
21	+ Little Antelope Summit*	-----	12.40
22	Charnac Basin	12.58	10.70
23	Kingston Creek	15.24	14.90
24	+ Dog Valley Summit, CA	-----	MISS
25	+ Pine Nut Thompson Canyon	-----	14.00
26	+ Leviathan Aspen Grove, CA	-----	MISS
27	+ Pine Grove Lobdell	-----	11.00
28	Ione	10.97	9.20
29	Currant Creek Summit	12.37	14.31
30	Wilson Creek Pass	16.14	19.54
31	Bunkerville Mountain	6.28	9.65
32	McCullough Pass	6.23	10.25
33	Cold Creek Canyon	16.27	29.90
34	Wheeler Pass	14.45	28.20
35	Lee Canyon	22.35	31.95
36	Adams Ranch	20.13	29.00
37	Spring Mountain Ranch	10.90	17.90
38	Kyle Canyon	19.90	31.65
39	Upper Williams Ranch	14.39	22.85
40	Roberts Ranch	13.72	24.80
41	+ Como-Rawe	-----	14.80
42	+ Carroll Summit	-----	16.60
43	+ Risue Summit	-----	12.00
44	+ Lucky Boy Pass*	-----	12.01
45	+ Clark Mountain South*	-----	9.20
46	+ Lebo Spring Summit	-----	15.60
47	+ Bald Mountain*	-----	14.60
48	+ Elbow West**	-----	NEW
49	+ Cloverdale Ranch**	-----	NEW
50	+ Scheelite Mine**	-----	NEW

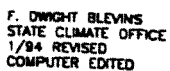
+ State Climatology Office (Others-- State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources- Elko, Carson City, and Las Vegas Offices).

* 8" SRG Can

** 5" Plastic

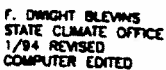
NEVADA

CLIMATE STATIONS



NEVADA

CLIMATE STATIONS



Percentage of Normal
Precipitation
October 1993 - January 1994

NEVADA CLIMATE STATIONS



STATION LEGEND

- Precipitation - non recording
- Precipitation - recording
- ◐ Precipitation & Temperature
- ◑ Precipitation, Temperature & Evaporation
- ⊙²⁵ Storage Gauge (see supplemental sheet)
- △ Special Network
- ⊕ Designates Storage Gauge Groupings
- State Climate Office Station (Others - Nat'l Weather Service)
- ⊕ Double circle combinations indicate the availability of more detailed meteorological data

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MILES

